



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/651,851	08/29/2003	Richard G. Cartledge	28099-0005	8124
24633	7590	12/19/2007	EXAMINER	
HOGAN & HARTSON LLP			SWEET, THOMAS	
IP GROUP, COLUMBIA SQUARE				
555 THIRTEENTH STREET, N.W.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20004			3774	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/19/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

dcptopatent@hhlaw.com

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/651,851	CARTLEDGE ET AL.	
	Examiner Thomas J. Sweet	Art Unit 3774	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Thomas J. Sweet. (3) _____.

(2) Thomas Edman. (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 13 December 2007.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1 and 40.

Identification of prior art discussed: Ahmadi et al (us 4602911) and Liddicoat et al(6942694).

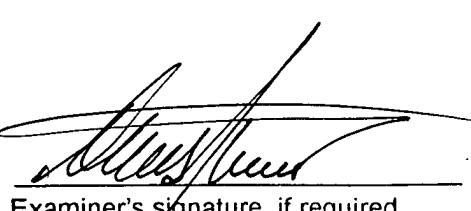
Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Amending claim 1 to specify that the tool is disposed axial or perpendicular to the plane of the implant defines over the prior art of Ahmadi et al. Claim 40 defines over the prior art of Ahmadi et al and Liddicoat et al because a modification to provide a docking mechanism configured to operably engage and adjust in an axial direction is required which is a non-obvious modification not taught by the Ahmadi et al and Liddicoat et al references.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



Examiner's signature, if required